

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

CERTIFICATE (13003)

Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 12

The School Social Worker Certificate is valid for assignment as a School Social Worker in grades PK - 12 in Rhode Island public schools.

Certification Requirements for full Rhode Island Certification¹

To be issued a certificate in School Social Worker an applicant must satisfy all of the following:

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Master's degree in Social Work from a regionally accredited institution
- Completion of a Rhode Island approved program for the preparation of Social Worker Support Professionals that leads to a master's degree in Social Work
- Demonstration of meeting the Content Competencies as prescribed by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
- Other requirements:
 - Masters in Social Work, Licensed as a Certified Social Worker by Rhode Island Board of Registration for Social Workers

Assessment Requirements

All applicants must meet the following Rhode Island assessment requirements:

- Applicants prepared in a program where the language of instruction was not English must achieve a passing score of 64 on the Versant Pro Speaking and Writing assessments.

Current Routes to Certification

Certification may be attained through the following routes:

- **Reciprocity** - Reciprocity is recognition of preparation or certification in another state as comparable to Rhode Island. Applicants seeking certification through reciprocity must demonstrate that they meet all Rhode Island certification assessment requirements, hold the additional required certificate and meet all experience requirements when applicable. Applicants can attain certification by completing a state approved program for Educator Certification in a state other than Rhode Island within the last 5 years OR by demonstrating that they hold a currently valid full certificate in another state.
- **RIDE Credential Review**- Evidence of an advanced degree in Social Work. Evidence of licensure as a certified Social Worker by the Rhode Island State Board of Registration for Social Workers. For more information review the [Credential Review Pathways website](#).

¹ Full Certification in Rhode Island means a multi-year certificate that demonstrates the educator has met all Rhode Island requirements for certification in the three-tier certification system (Initial, Professional, or Advanced certification). Full Certification does not include Preliminary Certifications which require educators to meet additional requirements to attain full certifications. Full certifications in Rhode Island are comparable to National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) stage three or higher certificates and are recognized by other states for certificate reciprocity.